The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. Capito), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Crapo), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Vance).

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 167 Ex.]

YEAS-61

Baldwin Bennet Blumenthal Booker Brown Butler Cantwell Cardin Carper Casey Collins Coons Cortez Masto Cramer Duckworth Durbin Fetterman Gillibrand Graham Hassan	Hickenlooper Hirono Hoeven Kaine Kelly King Klobuchar Luján Markey McConnell Merkley Moran Murkowski Murphy Murray Ossoff Padilla Peters Reed Romney	Rounds Schatz Schumer Shaheen Sinema Smith Stabenow Tester Thune Tillis Van Hollen Warner Warnock Warren Welch Whitehouse Wicker Wyden Young
Heinrich	Rosen	

NAYS-33

Barrasso	Ernst	Marshall
Blackburn	Fischer	Mullin
Boozman	Grassley	Paul
Braun	Hagerty	Ricketts
Britt	Hawley	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cruz	Lee	Sullivan
Daines	Lummis	Tuberville

NOT VOTING-6

Capito Manchin Sanders Crapo Menendez Vance

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUT-LER). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY RELATING TO "CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session and proceed to the consideration of S.J. Res. 57, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 57) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8

of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Treasury relating to "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

REMEMBERING MARGARET MINER

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I come to the floor this afternoon to talk about a great friend of mine, Margaret Miner.

My friend Margaret Miner died last week. I am really sad about it. Her family and her friends are really sad about it because she was a great friend, she was warm, and she was generous, because she was funny, she was kind, because she made a lot of other people's lives better.

But I am also sad because Margaret was one of a kind. She was a true Renaissance woman. She was a polymath. She was voracious about intaking the world and about giving back to it.

I have never met anybody like her. I will never meet anybody like her again. I will never see a partnership like the one that she had with her late husband Hugh Rawson. Her legacy lives on, but there is just no doubt that the mold was broken in two when they made Margaret Miner.

She was born in New York City in 1938. Her parents—Tony and Francis—were in show business, which kind of makes sense if you knew her but kind of doesn't.

In 1984, she moved from Brooklyn to Roxbury, CT—Roxbury is a smalltown, quintessential New England village in Northwest Connecticut—and there she became a fixture in the community. She began her life's work of fighting to protect the natural beauty of this State that she called home for the next 40 years.

I first met Margaret as soon as I graduated college. So I went to work for a long-shot congressional candidate who happened to be personal friends with Margaret and Hugh.

And Margaret and Hugh were also, at the time, pretty adept local political activists in Litchfield County. There were no two people who worked harder for that long-shot candidate, their friend, than Margaret and Hugh. They raised money. They knocked on doors. They put up lawn signs—whatever their friend needed, whatever their friend's 22-year-old campaign manager needed. She and Hugh were selfless. I saw that up close. I saw what a good friend Margaret could be.

Then, years later, when I was elected to the State legislature, I got to know Margaret as an advocate. She was in those legislative halls in Hartford, CT, nearly every single day, fighting for her cause, the cause of clean water and a healthy environment.

She single-handedly made her organization, Rivers Alliance, which she led for 18 years, a force to be reckoned with in Hartford. Under her leadership, Rivers Alliance became a force in Connecticut politics.

Her team fought for and successfully helped to pass State laws to create a statewide water plan to protect streamflow in water courses, to ban the water contaminant MTBE in gasoline, to protect funding for the Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality, and to restore and protect State funding for the U.S. Geological Survey. That is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of what Margaret did, in terms of what Margaret and the people she mentored produced in Hartford. But her work was always about something bigger than herself or even her organization, Rivers Alliance.

She was really dedicated to building a movement around water quality, around water health, around the environment. She helped teach people all across the State how to advocate for themselves, how to advocate for the causes that they mutually cared about.

She was an organizer of people at heart, encouraging countless individuals all around the State and all around the country to join the causes that she cared about. And she was just good at it. There were fewer people who were more inspiring or convincing than Margaret was.

Now, Margaret wasn't a big, boisterous, loud personality, but she was sincere; she was genuine; and she never ever gave up. Her persistence was her calling card.

Her unrelenting advocacy did not go unrecognized or unnoticed. She received countless awards for her work during her lifetime. She received the first Champion of Water Award from the Connecticut Water Policy Council. She received the Clyde O. Fisher Award for environmental achievement from the Connecticut Bar Association.

She was the first recipient of the Dr. Marc J. Taylor Environmental Stewardship Award, the Rockfall Foundation's Tom ODell Distinguished Service Award. In 2016, I nominated her for the EPA's prestigious Lifetime Merit Award.

People knew what she had done in Connecticut, and so, good for Connecticut that we didn't have to wait for Margaret's passing before singling her out for her seminal achievements in the area of environmental protection.

But what made Margaret so compelling, what made Margaret so amazing was that in addition to being a great friend, in addition to leading one of the State's preeminent environmental organizations, she was incredibly accomplished in so many other fields.

The rest of her life, when you say it out loud, in addition to all of that achievement, it kind of almost sounds implausible.

For instance, in her free time, Margaret was a nationally known and celebrated author, not about the environment, but about the history of quotable people. She was the coauthor of five dictionaries of quotations, including the "Oxford Dictionary of American Quotations" with her husband Hugh. In her spare time, she wrote five anthologies of quotations—five books.

She helped found an organization called Our Towns for Sar-E-Pol, a humanitarian effort through the not-forprofit Save the Children to help women and children in Sar-E-Pol, Afghanistan. She was an international philanthropist and an author and environmental advocate.

She wrote a Consumer Reports book on allergies. I didn't even know that until I read the story of Margaret's life. She was an active member of the Roxbury Democratic Town Committee, and just before she passed at 86 years old, she was still serving on the local Zoning Board of Appeals.

She was learning Spanish in her eighties, attending two Spanish classes weekly. And as often as she could, she was playing poker, fleecing her friends of their money whenever possible.

Margaret Miner was an original. As her friend, I will remember her wit, her political savvy, her boundless heart, and on a personal note, I will just say I wouldn't be here if not for Margaret—and for Margaret and Hugh.

When I decided to run for Congress 10 years after first meeting Margaret, she was, not surprisingly, one of my first calls. I planned the early stages of my first campaign at Margaret and Hugh's kitchen table in their cute house in Roxbury, CT. That is how important she was to me. And I am one of hundreds in Connecticut who can say Margaret Miner was one of the most important people in my life.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENERGY

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, I have good news. Senator STABENOW, leader, chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, has presented a bill that will allow us to consider an ag bill. And we have got work to do.

But as we know, for more than 90 years, the U.S. Congress—we have always worked together on this to advance the farm bill. And that is critical to rural America, and it is critical to all of America. It is about our agricultural and food policy and our environment. It reaches far beyond farms and fields and into the lives of every American throughout our country.

The farm bill, as you know, shapes the future of ag policy for every 5 years. It is always tough to get from here to there, so we have much more work to do. But it has been something that is essential to give our farmers the support they need. And it is also the most important legislation that we take up to support rural America. The small towns across our entire country that sustain our agricultural sector do so much for our economy and so much for sustaining important personal and patriotic values.

Vermont is a very proud rural State, and agriculture is a keystone of our culture as well as economy. Vermont's farmers, our dairies, our sugarmakers have shaped our small towns in rural Vermont for generations. We want to keep that going.

We have worked to keep that culture of the small, family-sized farms in our State, independent farmers, with most of our farms below a couple of hundred acres and town populations less than 2.500 people.

Vermont is by far not unique in this regard. America will not thrive if our rural communities aren't thriving. That is a commitment all of us have to make, and it is why as the chair of the Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Rural Development and Energy, I am urging my colleagues to support and work with us to improve the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act. It helps our farmers keep farming. It keeps our families fed, something very important to our farmers, and it keeps rural communities strong.

The Senate Agriculture Committee, under Chair Stabenow's outstanding leadership, recently unveiled the farm bill. Our bill has over 100 bipartisan provisions and a host of policies that many of my colleagues across the caucus and across the aisle support. It will strengthen rural America in many ways.

And by the way, Chair STABENOW included 100 bipartisan provisions, but she is totally open to more bipartisan provisions. Anything we can do to improve this with suggestions from both sides of the aisle, she and we want to

The farm bill, as I mentioned, supports farms, families, and rural farming. It is going to improve the quality of life for families in Vermont and America, with baseline funding—that is important, as we know—for the first time ever, to make improvements in rural healthcare. Our rural hospitals are hanging on by their fingernails, whether it is Kansas or Vermont or Idaho.

It is going to improve childcare availability, which is so essential to all families across the country but especially in rural America. And it is going to help our Tribes continue to have access to USDA programs.

The Senate farm bill will help us more efficiently build out high-speed rural broadband. I want to acknowledge the work on both sides of the aisle to build out broadband, but we have got to maintain that—just like we built out electricity in the thirties—so that rural America is fully a part of the modern economy.

This bill will invest in and it will modernize wastewater and public water systems and those are under enormous stress and our local communities don't have the tax base to do all that needs to be done. There needs to be some recognition on the part of the Federal Government, and in the farm bill, we make that recognition.

It will help modernize our wastewater and public water systems and help remove in rural communities those toxic "forever chemicals" like PFAS.

The bill will also support timber innovation and markets, including American wood products. The Senate farm bill focuses, too, on cutting energy costs for homeowners in rural America, for farms, and for small businesses, and helps folks who want to make that transition to renewable energy so they have an affordable way to do it.

It will strengthen our energy security and support energy innovation in the field of bio-based chemicals and products.

The Senate farm bill does something that I think all of our bills should do, invest in the middle class—in middle-class rural jobs, by supporting manufacturing, entrepreneurship, small businesses, and the rural cooperatives that have been so essential to the well-being of so many of our communities.

And finally, it does all this while supporting and strengthening local and regional food systems. Nothing excites people in a community more than a farmer's market. They are excited that they are getting local food. They know that it is healthy. They know they are supporting their farmers. And all of us who are not farmers appreciate the role that our farmers in our communities play as custodians of the landscape.

In the Rural Development and Energy titles of the bill alone, there is a lot to celebrate, and I am also pleased that the bill includes many of the priorities that I and others have championed in my role as the chair of the Subcommittee on Rural Development and Energy.

This bill includes some proposals we made there. The bipartisan ReConnecting Rural America Act. That would strengthen USDA's ReConnect Loan and Grant Program and in so doing, reduce redtape and speed broadband development and deployment in rural America.

It strengthens critical rural development programs like the Rural Innovation Stronger Economy Program, REAP Zones, and rural development loans and grants. Bottom line, that helps with financing of local businesses in our rural communities.

One other provision is a bipartisan bill that I have sponsored with others, the USDA's Rural Energy Savings Program. It provides no-interest loans to rural utilities. They have been a backbone for those communities to access cost-effective energy upgrades for homes and businesses. That lowers costs and accelerates sustainability. With funds from this program, rural utilities can finance projects to electrify household heating and cooling, increase energy efficiency, and assist in that transition to renewable energy.

Another provision that really is being taken up by many Americans is the access to heat pumps, and the provision is the Heat Pump Energy Assistance and Training Act, which would create a program within USDA to help deploy heat pumps in rural communities across the country.

I have to tell you, folks in Vermont, when they can get a heat pump, it works out on the numbers, and they save money, and they stay cozy and warm in our cold winters, they like that. Let's have more of it.

By the way, it helps with cooling in Texas as well.

Now, these are just a handful of the provisions in the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act that are helping our rural communities. So we want to keep working hard to support our farms and what they do, to shore up and expand the nutrition programs that so many families and seniors depend on.

And, by the way, you know, the economy is doing better than ever in some ways. The stock market is up. But we have, like, 1 in 12 Americans who are food insecure, and a lot of those are folks who have jobs and are working really hard. So we have got to maintain our commitment to the nutrition and well-being of our citizens, particularly our children.

Over the past hundred years, we have made a commitment to America's farmers and our farm communities. We want to keep that up. But the truth also is that, for too many years, Congress has not focused as much, in my view, as it should on our family and small farms that we have in Vermont and so many other States throughout our country. We have to make it possible for them to do the local agriculture that is so essential to the strength of local communities.

We are working to support and deliver for some of those small farmers that we have in Vermont, and I will mention a few whose farms I have visited. And, by the way, I don't know anybody who works harder than a farmer. The Corse family, Leon Corse and his daughter Abbie, have the Corse Farm Dairy, and I visited there in my first week as a Senator. Their family has been farming in Whitingham, VT, for over 155 years. We want to keep them going for another century.

The Choiniere Family Farm, a diversified organic dairy farm at the other end of the State up in Highgate Center; Jon Wagner and Karin Bellemare, owners of Bear Roots Farm and Roots Farm Market in Middlesex, in the center of our State; Justin Rich of Burnt Rock Farm, which is an organic produce farm in Huntington—they are doing a lot for us in Vermont and for those communities.

Before I close, I want to thank Chairwoman STABENOW and her Senate Agriculture Committee staff for the work on the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act. I also want to acknowledge what a joy it is for me to work with Senator BOOZMAN, who was a colleague of mine in the House and is doing a great job over here in the Senate.

This bill, in any year, is complicated—huge. And I am thankful for the many, many hours that staff and colleagues have invested in this bill and in our farming communities, and we are ready to put in more hours to make this bill better. We have got to make it pass.

For the sake of communities from Vermont to California, we must pass this 5-year farm bill to help America's farms and rural communities. Let's pass the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act and keep our farmers farming, keep our families fed, and keep our rural communities strong.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, this is National Police Week, and it is great to be joined by so many colleagues to show our respect and admiration for America's law enforcement community. Today is National Peace Officers Memorial Day, a time to pay tribute to law enforcement officials who made the ultimate sacrifice. These men and women gave their lives to their communities, to their State, and to their country; and we thank them and their families for their sacrifice.

As we mourn the loss of so many of these heroes, this week is also a time to honor and thank officers who continue to keep us safe. Former Dallas Police Chief David Brown once said. "We ask law enforcement to do too much in this country," and I agree. Whether it is helping someone experiencing a mental health crisis, a drug overdose, a medical emergency, or as a victim of crime, America's police officials constantly and consistently go above and beyond the call of duty. Their jobs require tremendous hours and tremendous amounts of courage and sacrifice, not just from the officer who wears the uniform but from their families as well. And I am grateful to those who selflessly serve their communities every day.

The brave men and women in law enforcement deserve our appreciation. But more than that, they deserve our support. They deserve the resources, the training, the protection needed to do their jobs effectively. To show our support for these public servants who have dedicated their lives to protecting our communities, Congress should pass the Back the Blue Act. This legislation adds stiff mandatory penalties and makes it a Federal crime to kill or attempt to kill a law enforcement officer or a Federal judge or a federally funded public safety official. It makes it a Federal crime to assault a law enforcement officer.

This legislation is needed because these men and women put themselves in harm's way every day to keep our communities safe, and we must send a strong message that violence directed at them will never be tolerated.

The Back the Blue Act sends a strong message to the more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serving our country that they are supported, and I hope Congress will move forward to advance this legislation.

Today and every day, I am grateful for the dedicated police officers, sheriffs, constables, Border Patrol agents, and other law enforcement officials of all types who keep Texas safe. Like all my colleagues in Congress, I am thank-

ful for the men and women of the Capitol police who safeguard this building and the Members of Congress, our staff, journalists, and the many visitors who walk these halls on a daily basis.

There is nothing we can do to adequately thank these heroes for their sacrifices, but there is a lot we can do to affirm that support. My colleagues and I have introduced bills to boost officer recruiting and retention, improve training, and give law enforcement the resources they need to do their job safely and effectively. I hope we can advance these bills as soon as possible to show our appreciation for these heroes in blue.

On behalf of the State of Texas, I want to thank all of those who serve our communities and protect them and keep them safe.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I rise today to honor the brave men and women in North Carolina and across the Nation who serve in law enforcement. This is an emotional week for the law enforcement community as thousands of officers and their families come to our Nation's capital for National Police Week. They are paying tribute to brave officers who were killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities.

Unfortunately, North Carolina is all too familiar with law enforcement officers making the ultimate sacrifice. I want to take a moment to recognize some of the law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty since last year's police week and memorial.

Last September, Forsyth County Sheriff's Deputy Auston Reudelhuber was killed in a head-on collision while on patrol. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Last December, we lost Sergeant Russell Jones of the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office. He was attempting to halt an altercation at the Pamlico County Detention Center, and during the encounter with an inmate, Sergeant Jones was punched in the face, leading him to collapse minutes later and die. Sergeant Jones served with the Pamlico County Sheriff's Office for 4 years. He is survived by his mother and two sisters.

In December of last year, we lost Philip Dale Nix of the Greensboro Police Department. He was a sergeant in the police department. Sergeant Nix was off duty at a local gas station when he observed three individuals stealing alcohol. When he tried to intervene, they shot him and killed him on sight. Sergeant Nix worked for the Greensboro Police Department for more than 22 years. He is survived by his wife and son.

Just a few weeks ago, on April 29, a task force of Federal, State, and local

law enforcement led by the U.S. Marshals Service attempted to serve an arrest warrant for a fugitive at a residence in Charlotte. Instead of surrendering, the fugitive shot at them; and during an hourslong standoff, four members of the task force were killed. It is one of the deadliest assaults on law enforcement in this country in nearly a decade.

Police officer Joshua Eyer served 6 years with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department. He is survived by his wife and his 3-year-old son.

Sam Poloche and Alden Elliott were both 14-year veterans of the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction. Poloche is survived by his wife and two sons—one graduating from college, another from high school in a few weeks. Elliott is survived by his wife and son.

U.S. Marshal Deputy Thomas Weeks, Jr., was a 13-year veteran of the Marshals Service. He is survived by his wife and four children.

Words alone cannot express the pain and loss each of these families has gone through. They lost the loving husband. They lost a parent. Their lives will never be the same. However, they are never going to be alone. Because in the wake of these tragic losses, we have seen communities unite and rally to support these families. In each instance, we witnessed an outpouring of love for the fallen officers and support for law enforcement.

Congress should follow the example the communities have set. We can show our respect for law enforcement by taking the dangers and threats they face seriously, especially when they are deliberate, like the tragedy we witnessed in Charlotte last month.

That is why I introduced and reintroduced the Protect and Serve Act this Congress. Most people would be surprised to learn that intentionally harming or attempting to harm a law enforcement officer in this country is not a Federal crime. This bipartisan language will change that. It sends a strong message to criminals that assaulting a law enforcement officer is inexcusable and will be met with the full weight of our Nation's criminal justice system.

Law enforcement has our backs every single time they put on a uniform and go on patrol. The least that Congress can do is to signal to law enforcement that we have their backs, too, by passing the Protect and Serve Act. They need our support now more than ever.

To the men and women in law enforcement in North Carolina and across this country, I want to say: Thank you for putting on the uniform every day to keep us safe. You deserve our gratitude

To the families of the fallen officers, please know that while you lost a loved one, your community lost a hero and we will never forget their service and their sacrifice. God bless them all; God bless their families; and God bless law enforcement across this great Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, this week, we remember—and I join my colleagues here on the Senate floor to do so publicly—we remember our law enforcement who have died in the line of duty. This week every year, we pay tribute to those who serve in the uniform and as a result of that service, come to a tragic death.

I offer my condolences to the people of North Carolina, the families of the officers just described by the Senator from North Carolina.

In my role as a Senator, I have chaired and have been the vice chair of the Appropriations subcommittee that funds our national law enforcement officers—the DEA, the ATF, the FBI, the U.S. Marshals. A deputy U.S. marshal was killed in North Carolina just recently.

It is an honor, a privilege to be able to be associated with those who are willing to sacrifice so much for the benefit of all of us and particularly those in the communities in which they live. We honor that sacrifice, that dedication, that service to our communities. We know police officers put their lives at risk and their families know they put their lives at risk every day to protect our communities in our country.

While this week is a time to remember those who have passed, it is also important for us to express gratitude to those who currently serve.

During this week, we will memorialize 282—282—individual law enforcement officers, 282 heroes who during the last year gave their lives serving their community.

One of those heroes was Kansas Officer Jonah Oswald. In August of last year, Officer Oswald was fatally shot while responding to another department, a neighboring law enforcement's request for help.

Officer Oswald was just 29 years old, a husband, a father—father to two young boys. He had served for 4 years in the Fairway, KS, police department. Fairway is a small suburb of Kansas City; population, 1,170. He knew the importance of serving his community. He knew his community.

This morning, Ben Overesch spoke at the National Police Week memorial ceremony in Kansas, and he said this about Officer Oswald:

Jonah understood the danger before him and without hesitation he showed up, over and over again, to meet it. Jonah policed with an enthusiasm that was hard to match. He was always vigilant. He was always eager for opportunities to help citizens of Kansas and Officers alike.

He was employed by Fairway, but the citizens of Prairie Village, Mission Hills, Westwood, Roeland Park, Mission, and others around us were helped by Jonah more than they will ever know.

He was not so enthusiastic out of vanity, or want of glory, or aggression. He believed in service, and in the nobility of the profession. He believed in right and wrong. He was filled with the hope that good will triumph over evil. We must remember not only his sacrifice, but his example daily.

Words spoken this morning in Topeka.

Thank you, Officer Overesch, for those remarks, and thank you to Officer Oswald for your service.

All too often, we forget about the many important roles that our law enforcement officials have within our communities. This extends beyond relationships between police officers and individual citizens. It is about relationships between law enforcement and key institutions in our communities—our churches, our hospitals, our schools, and our businesses.

During this National Police Week and throughout the year, we must remember that law enforcement needs our support—and not just during tough times.

It is our duty—really, we have the opportunity to be grateful, but it is our duty as citizens, as lawmakers, as Members of the Senate to support our officers, to provide them with resources and acknowledge the incredible sacrifice that is made every day.

Now more than ever, it takes a special kind of person to be a law enforcement officer. Whether sheriff's deputies or detectives, local police, Tribal police, highway patrol officers, beat cops, Federal agents, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, we hold up those who wear the badge. We honor them today, as we should every day.

To them, we say: Our respect is for you. You represent the extraordinary examples of how we see America at its best.

May God bless our law enforcement and their families. May they be safe from harm as they defend and protect the communities in which they serve and live.

I vield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. RICKETTS. Madam President, I join my colleagues in expressing my support and admiration for the women and men who put on the blue. Whether it is our southern border or our own backyards, these members of law enforcement are essential to protecting our safety and security. They are the guardians of our neighborhoods, protectors of our families. They take deadly drugs like fentanyl off of our streets.

As we celebrate National Police Week, let's recognize the service of those among us and the jobs they do that require the utmost integrity, skill, and dedication.

We must never forget the sacrifices that the members of law enforcement and their families make on our behalf. They work long hours in challenging conditions and dangerous areas to serve and protect us. Yet, despite the dangers they face, they remain steadfast in their commitment to our communities. They are the "thin blue line" that protects us while we sleep.

In recent years, we have seen a disturbing trend of not just disrespect toward law enforcement but violence. It is not just wrong, it is dangerous. It undermines the rule of law and threatens the safety and security of our communities.

We must send a clear message that violence against the women and men in blue will not be tolerated. We must stand with them and support them in their vital mission in our communities.

On Monday night, I had the opportunity to walk in a vigil, walk the beat, to honor the more than 149 members of law enforcement who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in my home State of Nebraska. Their names are reflected on the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial in Grand Island, NE, and they are remembered in the hearts of their fellow citizens today and throughout the year.

We remember Ross Bartlett, who died last month after 30 years of service with the Ceresco Police Department.

We remember Detective Kerrie Orozco, who was murdered in 2015—1 day before she was supposed to go on maternity leave.

We remember Investigator Mario Herrera, who was killed trying to serve an arrest warrant.

We remember all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep us safe. They were mothers and fathers, sons and daughters. They were heroes, and their bravery is eternal.

The women and men in blue are the backbone of our communities. We owe them a debt of gratitude that we can never repay, but we can show our appreciation for them, show our support for them

I am proud that in Nebraska, while other communities are trying to defund the police, we support the police. In Nebraska, we back the blue.

When I was Governor, we had the largest package of pro-public safety and law enforcement legislation passed in years. We invested \$47.7 million in our Grand Island Law Enforcement Training Center to ensure that our law enforcement officers would get the highest level of training. We invested \$16.9 million in our State Patrol Crime Lab to make sure we could solve crimes and give the victims of crime the justice they deserve.

Instead of reducing penalties for violent crimes, my home city of Omaha, NE, has used community engagement, like Omaha 360, to be able to reduce homicides. The Omaha Police Department and the Omaha community have reduced homicides in each of the last 3 years. ABC News said that the Omaha Police Department could be a model for the rest the Nation.

In addition, last year, Omaha police had a 100-percent clearance rate on homicides. There were 28 murders and 28 homicide cases cleared. When the national clearance rate is just over 50 percent, a 100-percent rate is truly remarkable.

As usual, America can learn a lot from our proven solutions in Nebraska.

The Federal Government must also back the blue. We need to secure our

border and put an end to the scourge of drugs that are killing our young people here in America. We need to pass the Back the Blue Act to increase the penalties for criminals who target law enforcement officers. We need to provide new tools to officers to protect themselves. We need to block anti-cop, softon-crime policies that would hinder law enforcement's ability to do their jobs with excellence. I am committed to working with anyone who wants to make this happen.

The women and men in blue have earned our respect and our gratitude—not just during Police Week but all year round.

Once again, thank you to the members of our law enforcement. Thank you to their families, who sacrifice alongside them. You are heroes, and we are forever in your debt. I am grateful for all that you have done for our communities, and I know, on behalf of all Nebraskans, we support law enforcement.

God bless our law enforcement officers as they keep us safe. God bless the great State of Nebraska. And God bless our Nation

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the brave law enforcement officials in North Dakota and across the country who work every day to keep our communities safe.

As we mark National Police Week, we recognize the bravery and service provided by our peace officers and the sacrifices they make on behalf of all of us.

According to the FBI, more than 79,000 officers were assaulted in 2023, marking the highest officer assault rate in the past 10 years. That is concerning. Despite the certain danger these officers face, they take on this responsibility to protect and serve so that our communities remain safe and free.

Today, on National Peace Officers Memorial Day, we have the opportunity to come together as a nation to remember and honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our communities so that we may live in safety.

I would like to honor two North Dakotans who were killed in the line of duty last year.

The tragic loss of Officer Jake Ryan Wallin of the Fargo Police Department and Deputy Sheriff Paul Martin from the Mercer County Sheriff's Office reminds us of the dangers our law enforcement officials face every day and the enormous debt we owe them and their families for their sacrifices to keep our communities safe. These heroes will be forever remembered with their names inscribed on our National Law Enforcement Memorial.

We can never fully repay our police officers, but we can continue to honor those we have lost and the sacrifices of their families and their loved ones. To honor these brave law enforcement officials, I have joined with others in introducing a resolution here in the Senate to recognize their bravery and memorialize the lives of Officer Wallin, Deputy Martin, and the more than 220 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2023.

This dedication to community and the rule of law is characteristic of so many of our police men and women, without whose efforts our communities would not be the same. That is why our resolution also designates this week, May 12 through 18, as National Police Week and honors the bravery and good work of all law enforcement officers.

One such example is Fargo Police Officer Zachary Robinson. Officer Robinson and his wife Ashley are in Washington, DC, this week. He is 1 of 10—10 in the whole Nation—to be honored as a TOP COP by the National Association of Police Organizations. He was presented with the award for his heroic efforts last July when Fargo law enforcement officials were ambushed while investigating a traffic accident, resulting in the death of Officer Wallin and the injuries of Officers Andrew Dotas and Tyler Hawes.

Fargo Police Chief Dave Zibolski summed up Officer Robinson's actions on that day when he stated:

If not for the courageous efforts of Officer Zach Robinson, our community would have been further devastated. He saved many lives. We are extremely proud of Zach! His reaction was immediate, without hesitation, and without regard for his own safety—true bravery.

He walked into a hailstorm of bullets to neutralize the situation and save lives. Think what that takes. Amazing.

I had the opportunity to meet and visit with Officer Robinson—Zach and his wife Ashley—today. Wow, what great people. They are truly the kind of young people who should really serve as role models for all of us, young and old—truly great Americans.

Today and always—every day—we remember the bravery and dedication of law enforcement to keep our communities safe. We honor them—all of them—and thank them for heeding the call to serve.

May God bless our peace officers—each and every one of them—and their families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today during Police Week to pay tribute to Sergeant Nevada Krinkee.

Here he is. He was a member of the police force in Sheridan, WY. He was a beloved officer in Sheridan. He was well-known for his selflessness. His colleagues will tell you he always put others first. His death in February of this year, in the line of duty, was absolutely tragic, and it shook our State.

Sergeant Krinkee was the first officer in Wyoming, since 1997—the first one this century—to die by homicide in

the line of duty. It is actually the first line-of-duty death in the history of the Sheridan Police Department. Sergeant Krinkee made the ultimate sacrifice for the community he loved and the community that he swore to protect. He was only 33 years old.

In March, I attended his funeral in Sheridan, WY. It was so large they had to move it to the community collegethe great auditorium there, the field house. What was moving was the outpouring of folks from all around the community, as well as the State, as well as the country. They were there to honor Sergeant Krinkee but were also there to support his wife Karla and their young daughter Bella. More than 1,800 people attended in the community of Sheridan, WY. They flooded in from across Wyoming and from across the country. Many of them who were there to mourn his death and honor his family had never actually met Sergeant Krinkee

It was the largest single event in Sheridan, WY in 40 years. It was 40 years ago that Queen Elizabeth visited Wyoming and had a similarly sized turnout. Law enforcement officers traveled from every corner of our State. They came from tiny towns. They also came from big cities across the West. All came to pay their respects to the man and to their brother in uniform.

As police cars escorted the family to the memorial service, citizens of Sheridan, WY, lined the streets of the community—four deep—waving American flags. It was absolutely beautiful to behold.

One of the newspaper reporters asked a man from Wyoming, who drove over 100 miles to be there, why he came that far to attend the funeral. After all, this was somebody he had never met. He had never heard of Sergeant Krinkee before he had been killed.

He responded:

I stand for those who have stood for us, and I will until the day I die.

Well, that says a lot about the people of Wyoming through and through.

One of the greatest blessings of our great Nation is the men and women of law enforcement. Police officers have one of the most dangerous and demanding jobs in our Nation, and they do it with confidence and with compassion.

Today, officers need to deal with dangerous criminals, and they often do it in the face of continuous criticism. It is alarming. Police officers across the country are coming under attack from criminals and the soft-on-crime politicians who coddle them. Sadly, more police officers have been killed or injured by gun violence in the line of duty in 2023 than ever before. Politicians who support criminals rather than police and demonize and defund the police hold responsibility. The police, as a result, have been demoralized and endangered

We also see crime—violent crime—right now in America at a record high. Compared to 2019, murders are up 17

percent, and aggravated assaults are up 8 percent.

Let me be clear: Defunding the police has made our communities less safe. For police officers, it has turned the badges on their sleeves sometimes into targets on their backs.

Law enforcement officers love their communities. They love them enough to give their lives to protect those communities. These are incredible men and women. To me, each one is a hero, and we are grateful for each and every one of them.

They wear the badge. They protect our communities despite all the risks. To me, it is the definition of selfless-

To the men and women of law enforcement, you are everyday heroes, and you are among us every day.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, this week is National Law Enforcement Week. So we pause here in our Nation's Capital to honor and remember the men and women who so proudly serve and so bravely serve our communities.

I am grateful for the nearly 8,000 law enforcement officers across the State of Kansas who are fighting to keep our communities safe as we speak here today. I rise to honor these brave men and women in uniform and recognize the sacrifices they and their families make every day to keep us all safe.

I have hosted numerous crime and fentanyl roundtables across the State of Kansas, and everywhere I go, the officers tell me they are overwhelmed—they are overwhelmed with drug trafficking, with human trafficking, and with fentanyl trafficking—and that the crisis is growing; it is exploding. What they tell me is, even if we doubled or if we tripled the number of officers out there, they could not arrest themselves out of the situation.

They all, to a person, point and ask me: When is the Federal Government going to shut down our border?

To those officers out there who are fighting the fight—fighting human trafficking, fighting the fentanyl poisoning—I say thank you, and I get it. I know you are overwhelmed.

These officers back home are our first line of defense. They are our families', our children's, and our friends' first line of defense in these crises. Now, more than ever, it is crucial that we demonstrate our unwavering support for them. We need to assure them that help is on the way. We need leaders here and an administration that prioritizes law and order.

Growing up, we were taught to follow the rules. We all respected the law, and we feared the consequences of breaking them. We, as a country, respected our law enforcement officers. And perhaps no one more than myself can appreciate law enforcement—the son of a career police officer, the son of a chief of police. What I will always remember about what my dad taught me about

law and order is that he would apply the law equally. He didn't care what your last name was. He didn't care what side of the railroad tracks you came from. He was going to apply the law equally.

I am honored to celebrate all those who have protected and served our communities.

I want to close today by remembering two Kansas officers who lost their lives this past year: Goodland, KS, Police Chief Frank Hayes, Jr., and Fairway, KS, Police Officer Jonah Oswald. I am grateful for their service and the ultimate sacrifice they made in keeping their communities safe.

I want to remember their families and let them know that we are thinking of you today, that we have not forgotten you or your loved one, and that we are going to continue to mourn with you. Again, we are grateful for the sacrifices you made and your loved one to keep us all safe.

I vield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

S.J. RES. 57

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, the Senate will take a vote shortly on a resolution from Senator SCHMITT dealing with infrastructure funding.

The discussion of the resolution has been pretty quiet because, on its face, it looks like it is an issue dealing with a lot of budgetary lingo and "Washingtonese." Obligated funds and expenditure deadlines are what people hear about. But the reality is this proposal is anti-infrastructure. It could put stop-work orders on thousands of infrastructure projects across the country. Some of them have shovels in the ground as we speak.

(Mr. OSSOFF assumed the Chair.)

My concern is, Mr. President, we pass this, and we would be going virtually from a period where folks in Georgia and elsewhere had hard hats to where they are facing layoffs.

Here is the background: In 2021, Congress passed emergency funding for State and local governments. At the time, there was a big concern that their budgets would get clobbered by the pandemic, which had hammered our economy and put millions out of work. But State and local budgets fared better than expected.

So later on, Senators were looking, on a bipartisan basis, for smart ways to rebuild our infrastructure—roads and bridges and highways, water and sewer, and also broadband projects. There was bipartisan agreement that Congress ought to allow that leftover State and local funding to be repurposed for these important infrastructure projects. So both sides of this Chamber—the Republican side, the Democratic side—passed legislation multiple times, even by unanimous consent, that provided what the States and localities wanted, which is more flexibility.

We hear our colleagues on the other side talk a lot about wanting to cut redtape to get the Federal Government out of the way and empower the States, the laboratories of democracy. Here is a case where my colleagues on the other side got exactly what they wanted: more flexibility for the States to use taxpayer funds on infrastructure.

Have a highway that needs widening—a bridge that has passed its useful life, a water system with lead pipes that need replacing? Congress voted on a bipartisan basis to make that easier. It is a real head-scratcher why Republicans would now want to make this difficult.

Some have accused the Treasury Department of playing around with the expiration of the program. That hasn't happened at all. It is the same program with the same timeline and the same rules that Democrats and Republicans agreed on as recently as a few short months ago.

I mentioned at the outset that this resolution puts a stop-work order on thousands of projects nationwide. The numbers just really stun you when you walk through them.

On the Finance Committee, we asked the Treasury Department what the impact could be in specific States. Here is an example: In the Presiding Officer's State of Georgia, 17 projects, totaling \$1.4 billion could be terminated; Michigan, 160 projects; Ohio, 342 projects; Arizona, 50 projects; Montana, 404 projects; and West Virginia, 73 projects.

Nationwide, there could be thousands of projects closed, tens or even hundreds of thousands of jobs lost, higher costs for families and businesses that had to wait far too long for Congress to get serious about infrastructure.

I will just tell my colleagues, as we gear up for a vote, this one is one of the most unusual votes that I have seen recently, a true head-scratcher. Bipartisanship, we all know, is a heavy lift. But the progress we have made on this issue, in my view, is actually a bipartisan highlight of the last several years.

I have talked to my colleagues a lot about how we find some common ground. Here, we have, from day one, Senator CORNYN—my colleague on the Finance Committee—and Senator PADILLA working from the outset to add additional flexibility for the pool of funds that would be available. So a Republican U.S. Senator and a Democratic U.S. Senator put together a proposal—now get this, colleagues—that passed by unanimous consent three times.

So if the Senate were to walk back this bipartisan effort—originally led by a Senator from California, a Democrat, and a Senator from Texas, a Republican—the bottom line would be, Mr. President, that, starting almost immediately, those hard hats that I mentioned in States like yours and others could be coming off, and they would be looking at ways to keep a roof over their head and to pay for food for their families and healthcare.

I will close by saying this. I just don't see a good reason for the U.S. Senate to backtrack on solid, bipartisan progress and have this Chamber act in a way that leaves more of our Nation's infrastructure in a state of disrepair.

I urge my colleagues to preserve the bipartisan work that has been done on this issue—that got strong, strong votes three times. Preserve the work that has been done on this issue for infrastructure. Oppose the resolution.

I yield the floor. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise in support of my resolution that would overturn a rule from the Department of the Treasury that affects the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

Treasury's attempted sleight of hand to keep the COVID spending spigot on is an insult to Congress and those who believe in our Constitution as well as a complete misuse of taxpayer dollars.

As we vote today, we as a body must ask ourselves a couple of simple questions:

First, are we going to allow funds meant for COVID recovery to be spent after the so-called "emergency" ended or are we finally able to install fiscal responsibility as our national debt spirals further out of control?

Second, are we willing to defend the article I branch from an overreaching Agency of bureaucrats who want to claim more and more power for themselves?

The spending in this program—which is hardly the point right now, actually, with this extension of the time, but it is worth noting—has been wasteful on many occasions.

When Congress provided \$350 billion for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, I don't think one could have imagined that the fund would have been used for golf course and swimming pools and tennis courts—maybe to some. It also became a slush fund to incentivize illegal immigration, \$340 million for cash payments to illegal immigrants in Washington State, \$3.6 million in Illinois to help illegal immigrants apply for citizenship, and \$2 million in DC to help turn the District of Columbia into a "proud sanctuary city."

Regardless of whether you supported the spending or not, this fund had a specific purpose. This fund was designated to aid State governments and local governments with revenue shortfalls tied to the COVID-19 pandemic.

When Congress created this fund, Congress provided a clear restriction. In statute, Congress required that all costs incurred with money from this fund must be incurred by December 31, 2024. That is the statute. That is congressional language.

In short, recipients had over 3 years to obligate this funding or the funding would be returned to the Federal Treasury. Most States and localities understood the requirements.

As of March of 2023—over a year ago—all States had obligated at least 60 percent of their funding while localities had obligated over 54 percent. Yet, lo and behold, while most people in this body were celebrating Thanksgiving with our families, the Treasury Department tried to pull a fast one on the American people. The Treasury Department decided it knew better than this body and better than Congress, and the Department rewrote the law to fit its own needs and special interests.

Even though the statute said all costs must be incurred by the end of this calendar year, the Treasury Department decided that States could still use these COVID recovery dollars way past 2024.

This is infuriating on a bunch of different levels. First, the administration ended the public health emergency for the pandemic on May 11, 2023.

Now, most Americans had moved on well beyond that, but even this administration acknowledged over a year ago that it was over.

It is also crazy because even though this administration said COVID ended about a year ago, bureaucrats at the Treasury Department decided we should just keep spending money anyway—spending billions into 2025 and 2026—to recover from COVID. Just think about that for a second.

But beyond this, beyond there being no rational reason to continue the spending for COVID recovery, this rule does not even keep the spigot on in order to directly benefit our constituents. This is bureaucrats giving a helping hand and a paycheck to—you guessed it—other bureaucrats.

Earlier this week, Secretary Yellen attempted to assert that if this rule is overturned—and I heard this from my colleague—then infrastructure projects would grind to a halt. That is false. That is not true. This administration, once again, is using fearmongering as a reckless tactic for a radical agenda.

Let's be honest with the American people and look at the text of this rule. Under this new Treasury rule, the funding is limited to administrative and legal costs, such as compliance costs and internal control requirements. This rule ensures that funding does not go to bridges or broadband but to bureaucrats.

And this rule has real cost. This rule, if it continues, will cost taxpayers at least \$13 billion, if not more. That boils down to about \$1,200 for each and every American family. And around here, as I have learned, \$13 billion doesn't seem like a lot of money to people. But we are \$34 trillion in debt. We are spending nearly the same amount on interest payments on that debt as we do our national defense.

This fiscal recklessness is unsustainable. The actions like this from the Treasury rule are a prime reason why we are \$34 trillion in debt. Our constituents demand that we actually hold the line, that we stop spending beyond our means, especially when the

rules encourage spending that is wasteful.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in supporting this resolution. COVID is over. Our national debt is out of control. Inflation is sky-high. It is time to reinstate fiscal responsibility here in the U.S. Senate.

I yield the floor, Mr. President, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am going to be very brief, but I want Senators to know that this is about standing up for schools that need to replace lead pipes. That is the kind of effort that Senator CORNYN, Senator PADILLA, myself, and others said was essential for this country.

My colleague from my Missouri—I look forward to getting to know him more; he is new to the Senate—sets this up that somehow this is unnecessary and basically just fueling more redtape. Quite the opposite. If colleagues go home this weekend during the recess, they will see people in their States having good paying jobs for a good day's work repairing bridges, dealing with lead pipes. And that is, colleague, why, on three separate occasions, the Senate Democrats and Republicans came together.

My colleague—I don't ever want to be critical of someone's intention—has made it out that this will just be getting rid of some redtape and bureaucracy. I want Senators, who are going to vote in a little bit, to understand that this is not about that. This is about what it is really like in our communities where so many people are still hurting.

What I have in my mirror are priorities like schools needing to replace lead pipes. That is what we had in mind when we started this effort Senator CORNYN on the other side, myself, Senator PADILLA. I hope that the Senate won't vote here at 6 o'clock to essentially pull this effort up from the roots and throw it aside, because a lot of people will get hurt. Senators are going to hear about it pretty soon because these are projects that are underway today; they are underway now.

Democrats and Republicans felt they would make a difference for our communities, and we shouldn't tear up that effort in the name of this resolution that tries to suggest that this is mostly about cutting redtape, which is not the case. It is about cutting jobs in our communities, and we are going to lose a lot of opportunities for some smart investments for the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, just to respond briefly, it may not have been his priority list, but it is worth pointing out that, again, some priorities of these dollars—like \$340 million cash payments to illegal immigrants—have been spent from this fund. But be that as it may, if the concern from my colleague is that these projects for lead pipe replacement and schools—if they have been obligated, nothing is going to change with that. I want to make that very clear. In fact, those obligations are still extended through 2024, as the statute called for.

What this is all about is one simple fact: Do we think that Treasury can rewrite the law to extend these bureaucratic payments that, by the way, are part of the submissions that these State and locals have made for legal fees, other compliance costs. That is all in these submissions. This is to get overtime for 2 more years to spend approximately \$13 billion. And again, that is \$1,200 out of the budgets of American families across this country.

So we have an opportunity to restore some fiscal sanity, to stand up for the Article I branch. Whether you agree with that law or not, it said those obligations had to be incurred before the end of 2024. We are not changing that. We are just saying Treasury doesn't get to do an end run around Congress and again have \$13 billion more go out the door to lawyers and to bureaucrats.

With that, I yield the floor and ask for the yeas and nays.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled rollcall vote take place immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the joint resolution is considered read a third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 57

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

The yeas and nays were previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) would have voted "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 46, navs 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 168 Leg.]

YEAS-46

Barrasso	Britt	Collins
Blackburn	Budd	Cornyn
Boozman	Capito	Cotton
Braun	Cassidy	Cramer

Lee Rubio Daines Lummis Schmitt Ernst Marshall Scott (FL) Fischer McConnell Scott (SC) Moran Graham Sullivan Mullin Grasslev Thune Murkowski Hagerty Tillis Hoeven Paul Tuberville Hyde-Smith Ricketts Wicker Johnson Risch Young Kennedy Romney Rounds Lankford

NAYS-49

Baldwin Heinrich Sanders Bennet Hickenlooper Schatz Blumenthal Hirono Schumer Kaine Shaheen Brown Kelly Sinema Butler King Smith Klobuchar Cantwell Stabenow Cardin Luián Tester Markev Carper Van Hollen Merkley Warner Coons Murphy Warnock Cortez Masto Murray Warren Duckworth Ossoff Welch Durbin Padilla. Whitehouse Peters Fetterman Gillibrand Wyden Reed Hassan Rosen

NOT VOTING-5

Crapo Manchin Vance Hawley Menendez

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 57) was rejected.

(Mr. MURPHY assumed the Chair.) (Mr. OSSOFF assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). The Senator from Connecticut.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO NEIL HARTIGAN

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to offer belated birthday wishes and heartfelt thanks to a man who has devoted more than five decades of his life to serving the people of Illinois.

Neil Hartigan made history in 1972 when he became Lieutenant Governor of Illinois. He was just 34 years old, making him, at that time, the youngest person ever elected Lieutenant Governor of any State. In 1973, Time magazine named him as one of the "Future 200 Leaders" in the country.

He was recruited to run by Illinois' then-Lieutenant Governor, an ambitious young man who planned to run for Governor and wanted Neil Hartigan as his running mate. That other man was Paul Simon, my political inspiration and the man whose Senate seat I now hold.

Paul Simon lost his 1972 bid for Governor by a razor thin vote. But Neil Hartigan won his race and, as Lieutenant Governor, became a champion for seniors. He pushed through the State legislature a bill that consolidated the